



**MARYLAND**  
*Association of*  
**COUNTIES**

## House Bill 1068

*Local Health Departments, Environmental Health Specialists, and On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Systems Standards, Regulations, Applications, and Funding*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Environment and Transportation and Health  
and Government Operations Committees

Date: March 2, 2022

From: Dominic J. Butchko

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 1068. The bill would improve the standardization and automation of the on-site sewage disposal system process.

Counties recognize that timely processing of permit approvals is crucial for local commercial and residential activity in affected areas. Counties agree with and appreciate the intent of HB 1068 to streamline internal process information-sharing and invest in local health departments as a means for solving application delays. The proposed improvements are anticipated to ease backlogs and make the application process more efficient and transparent.

In addition, the bill's mandated appropriation makes a much-needed investment in health department staffing and technology. This will help address many of the government-side problems slowing down the application process.

Counties praise and thank the House and Senate sponsors for working with environmental health leaders and for producing a bill steeped in good government. Accordingly, MACo urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** report.